

A P P E N D I X X . X . X .

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T H E B O V I N E S P O N G I F O R M E N C E P H A L O P A T H Y
R I S K A S S E S S M E N T R E C O M M E N D E D I N C H A P T E R
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A r t i c l e X . X . X . 1 .

Introduction

The first step in determining the bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) status of the cattle population of a country or zone is the outcome of a risk assessment identifying all potential factors for BSE occurrence and their historic perspective, in particular:

- 1) the potential for introduction and recycling of the BSE agent through consumption by cattle of *meat-and-bone meal* or *greaves* of ruminant origin;
- 2) importation of *meat-and-bone meal* or *greaves* potentially contaminated with a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE) or feedstuffs containing either;
- 3) importation of animals or embryos/oocytes (other than cattle embryos described in Article 2.3.13.8.) potentially infected with a TSE;
- 4) epidemiological situation concerning all animal TSE in the country or zone;
- 5) extent of knowledge of the population structure of cattle, sheep and goats in the country or zone;
- 6) the origin and use of ruminant carcasses (including fallen stock), by-products and slaughterhouse waste, the parameters of the rendering processes and the methods of animal feed manufacture.

The following guidelines are intended to assist *Veterinary Administrations* in conducting such a risk assessment.

A r t i c l e X . X . X . 2 .

The potential for introduction and recycling of the BSE agent through consumption by cattle of meat-and-bone meal or greaves of ruminant origin

Assumptions:

- That the consumption by bovines of *meat-and-bone meal* or *greaves* of ruminant origin plays the major role in BSE transmission.

- That commercially-available products of animal origin used in animal feeds may contain *meat-and-bone meal* or *greaves* of ruminant origin.
- BSE infectivity has not been identified in *milk*, tallow or blood and these products are not considered to play a role in the transmission of BSE.

Question to be answered: Has *meat-and-bone meal* or *greaves* of ruminant origin been fed to cattle within the last 8 years (Article 2.3.13.2 in the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*)?

Rationale: If cattle have not been fed products of animal origin (other than *milk* or blood) potentially containing *meat-and-bone meal* or *greaves* of ruminant origin within the last 8 years, *meat-and-bone meal* and *greaves* can be dismissed as a risk.

Evidence required:

- Documentation supporting that *meat-and-bone meal* or *greaves* of ruminant origin has not been fed.
- Documentation supporting that ruminant rations could not have been contaminated with *meat-and-bone meal* or *greaves* of ruminant origin during manufacture and distribution.

Rationale: If cattle have been fed animal protein products potentially containing *meat-and-bone meal* or *greaves* of ruminant origin within the last 8 years, then the extent to which this poses a risk needs to be assessed.

Evidence required:

- Documentation describing livestock feeding practices in the country.
- Documentation describing the origin and composition (species, class of stock) of the animal protein products fed.
- Documentation concerning the rendering processes used to produce such animal protein products, supporting why these processes would have inactivated or reduced the titre of BSE agent, should it be present.
- Documentation describing which type of animal were fed animal protein products.
- Documentation describing how contamination of cattle rations with *meat-and-bone meal* or *greaves* of ruminant origin is prevented during production and distribution.

Rationale: If *meat-and-bone meal* or *greaves*, and animal protein products containing them, are, and have been, fed solely to non-susceptible species (swine, poultry), then there is negligible exposure risk.

Evidence required:

- Documentation describing the final use of *meat-and-bone meal* and *greaves* and its monitoring.
- Documentation describing how cross-contamination of cattle rations with *meat-and-bone meal* and *greaves* is prevented on farm, monitored and enforced.

- Documentation supporting that rations intended for non-susceptible species (swine, poultry) could not have been contaminated on farm with *meat-and-bone meal* or *greaves* of ruminant origin.